



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/902,026	07/10/2001	Suhayya Abu-Hakima	8303/3	9283

7590 03/23/2006
Baniak Pine & Gannon
Suite 1200
150 North Wacker Drive
Chicago, IL 60606

EXAMINER

HANNE, SARA M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2179

DATE MAILED: 03/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/902,026	Applicant(s) ABU-HAKIMA ET AL.	
	Examiner Sara M. Hanne	Art Unit 2179	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 January 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4-8 and 11-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4-8 and 11-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1/11/06</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1: This office action is responsive to the amendment received 12/22/05. Examiner notes pending claims 1, 4-8 and 11-16.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2: The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3: Claims 1, 4-5, 8, 11-12 and 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Millier et al., US Patent 5899995, hereinafter Millier.

As in Claims 1 and 8, Millier teaches an electronic document viewer system for personalized presentation to a user of a plurality of electronic documents input from a source, said system comprising: a concept recognizer component configured for recognizing concepts, themes and sub-concepts, sub-themes associated with content of documents (ref. 230 Feature Recognizer), a user preferences knowledge base comprising preferences information personal to said user (Fig. 2B, ref. 240), a prioritization analyzer component configured for dynamic ordering the recognized concepts, themes and sub-concepts, sub-themes with the documents associated therewith (Fig. 8, 9 and corresponding text), according to priorities of the user determined from the preferences information (Col. 4, line 10 et seq.), wherein preferences information includes dynamic information learned from prior actions of the

user (Col. 3, lines 19-34) a viewer component configured for presenting on an electronic display a first hierarchical level of multiple levels of prioritized concept identifiers interlinked according to a hierarchical structure based on said ordering (Fig. 2A), wherein each concept identifier represents the documents associated therewith and a concept, theme, sub-concept, sub-theme (Col. 5) and for presenting on the electronic display in turn one or more in turn (Col. 6, line 10) lower hierarchical levels of the hierarchical structure of prioritized concept identifiers upon selection thereof by the user from a concept identifier presented on the electronic display (Col. 5, line 55 et seq.).

As in Claims 4 and 11, Millier teaches an input document processing component configured for outputting a static document map corresponding to the input electronic documents (Col. 3, line 48 et seq.).

As in Claims 5 and 12, Millier teaches a highlighter component configured for identifying key content of said input document on the basis of said document map (Col. 3, line 60 et seq.).

As in Claims 15 and 16, Millier teaches The viewer component configured for selectively presenting on the display, upon selection of one of the concept identifiers by the use, the next lower hierarchical level of concept identifiers (Col. 5, line 55 et seq.).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the

Art Unit: 2179

invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

5. Claims 6-7 and 13-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Millier et al., US Patent 5899995, hereinafter Millier, and further in view of Hyatt, US Patent 6678602.

In reference to Claims 6 and 13, Millier teaches identification of key content within an input document and creation of a static document map for creating a hierarchical configuration based on user's priorities and identified concepts (see rejections *supra*). While Millier teaches the viewer system and method for creating the hierarchy, recognizing concepts and themes, creating document maps and identifying key content, Millier fails to show displaying a predetermined amount of key content for a document corresponding to the particulars presented by the viewer component when a cursor operated by a user is positioned in the area of the particulars as recited in the claims. In the same field of the invention, Hyatt teaches a hierarchy configuration

method similar to that of Millier. In addition, Hyatt further teaches displaying a predetermined amount of data for the node with which the cursor position corresponds ("provide a supplementary 'bubble' of information on the display when a mouse cursor is positioned on a node of interest", Column 13, lines 26-28). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Millier and Hyatt before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the viewer system and method for creating the hierarchy as taught by Millier to include the proximity selection of nodes to display a given amount of key data of Hyatt, in order to obtain a preview for a node document that may be in consideration by the user. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because a method for previewing the information without opening the document would have been obtained so as to determine whether or not the user is interested in the document, as taught by Hyatt.

In reference to Claims 7 and 14, Millier teaches a concept learner component that creates said dynamic information pertaining to the user based on data sensed from the system's environment for input to a knowledge base of user data (Column 3, lines 18 et seq.).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 12/22/05 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to the arguments that Millier fails to teach recognizing concepts on a dynamic basis by including, in the preferences information of the user preferences knowledge base, dynamic information which is learned from prior actions of the user, the examiner disagrees. Millier clearly teaches a learning system, that is constantly evolving. In the sections cited from Millier, it states "The profile can adjust according to user's actions to become better and better at categorizing the user's documents," (Col. 3, lines 29-31), in which preferences information is continuously, dynamically updated by user's actions therefore prior actions of the user affect the preferences information once they have been obtained.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sara M. Hanne whose telephone number is (571) 272-4135. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30am-4:00pm, off on alternating Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, WEILUN LO can be reached on (571) 272-4847. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2179

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

smh



WEILUN LO
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER